IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claims 1-13 and add Claims 14-18 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for application of the main insulation to conductor bars, ~~in particular conductor bars for stator windings, with~~ the conductor bars having a rectangular cross section, ~~and~~ the method comprising ~~the following steps~~:

a) connecting ~~connection of the~~ individual conductor bars to form a quasi-infinite conductor bar with a rectangular cross section;

b) continuously ~~continuous~~ sheathing ~~of~~ the quasi-infinite, rectangular conductor bar with main insulation; and

c) cutting out or detaching of ~~the~~ unusable connecting points.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein~~, in step a,~~ connecting comprises connecting conductor bars which extend in straight lines ~~are used~~; and ~~the~~ sheathing ~~in step b is carried out~~ comprises sheathing with an elastomer~~, preferably with a silicone elastomer~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ sheathing ~~in step b is carried out by means of an~~ comprises extrusion ~~process~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, ~~with the method~~ further comprising ~~a further step;~~:

d) bending ~~of the~~ an evolvent of the insulated conductor bars.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein connecting comprises connecting curved conductor bars ~~are used in step a,~~; and ~~the~~ sheathing ~~in step b is carried out using~~ comprises sheathing with a thermoplastic or an elastomer~~, in particular a silicone elastomer~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1, 2, 4 or 5~~Claim 1,

wherein ~~the~~ sheathing ~~in step b is carried out by means of a~~ comprises blow forming ~~process~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, wherein continuously sheathing further comprises fitting internal corona-discharge protection ~~is additionally fitted~~ between the main insulation and the conductor surface ~~in step b~~, with ~~the~~ adhesion between the internal corona-discharge protection and the main insulation being greater than ~~the~~ adhesion between the internal corona-discharge protection and the conductor surface.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, wherein continuously sheathing further comprises applying slot corona-discharge protection, ~~and/or~~ turning point, ~~are/is applied in step b~~or both.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, wherein said conductor bars comprise conductor bars composed of individual conductors ~~are used, with the individual conductors preferably having a rectangular cross section~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein connecting comprises provisionally connecting the individual conductors ~~are provisionally connected~~ to one another.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 9 or 10~~Claim 9, wherein the conductor bars are not transposed in the area of evoluting~~the evolvent step~~.

12. (Currently Amended) Insulated conductor bars ~~, manufactured~~ formed by a process as claimed in ~~accordance with one of the above method claims~~Claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) A bending apparatus ~~for use~~ useful in ~~one of the above methods~~applying main insulation conductor bars, the apparatus comprising: ~~wherein~~

bending tools; and

a protective layer ~~(22) is~~ arranged in the area of the bending tools ~~(20)~~.

14. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the conductor bars comprise conductor bars for stator windings.

15. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein sheathing comprises sheathing with a silicone elastomer.

16. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 5, wherein sheathing comprises sheathing with a silicone elastomer.

17. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the individual conductors each have a rectangular cross section.

18. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:

evoluting the conductor bars.